

Wayne Allard

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SENATOR ALLARD, SENATOR SESSIONS INTRODUCE LEGISLATION TO PUT PERMANENT END TO DEATH TAX

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) and Senator Jeff Sessions (R-Alabama) Tuesday unveiled legislation they are co-sponsoring that would permanently and immediately do away with the death tax.

“Under current law, the estate tax will be fully repealed in 2010. But it will be back in full force in 2011 if Congress does not act,” Senator Allard said. “Our bill will allow thousands of families to be spared the economic hardship of the death tax -- an unfair levy that taxes a person’s estate when they pass on, regardless of the fact that they have already paid taxes on the property and income at least once.”

“The death tax discourages savings and investment, sending a message that it’s better to consume today than invest and make more money in the future. It undermines job creation and stifles economic growth. The death tax is a dead weight on our economy,” Senator Allard said.

The senators’ legislation will make the death tax repeal permanent, retroactive to January 1, 2005.

The Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act (EGTRRA) of 2001 increased the amount that taxpayers can exempt from estate and gift taxes and slowly reduced the rate over the period 2002 through 2009.

“This relief was a start, but it did not go far enough,” Senator Allard said. “Today farmers and small businesses continue to suffer economic hardship under the phase-out schedule created under EGTRRA.”

“I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate to see that our entrepreneurs are rewarded -- not penalized-- for their initiative and determination,” Senator Allard said.

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